MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: I was told by the Tahsildars in Nanjanad consisting of the taluks of Tovala, Agastisvaram and Vilavankod that they are not in possession of funds to make immediate purchase.

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA' G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That information is incorrect.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Rs. 30,000 have been allotted to Tovala and Rs. 50,000 to Agastisvaram taluks as a first instalment.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know when the funds were given?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: About two days ago.

MR. K. G. GOVINDAN (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know whether the Government intend purchasing paddy and rice directly or through some intermediary?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Directly by the Government.

Import of rice and paddy.

4. ✱ **MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state the total quantity of rice and paddy expected to be imported from outside during the year 1118 M. E.?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: The quantity that can be imported will depend upon the import quota that may be allotted to this State from time to time.

Price of Paddy.

5. ✱ **MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM:** Will the Government be pleased to state whether in fixing a maximum price of Rs. 1¼ per para of paddy throughout the State, they have taken into consideration the maximum price in any definite area and the costs of transport from that place to other areas?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Yes.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I know whether there is any maximum fixed for transport charges?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: It will depend upon the distance.

Price of paddy and tapioca.

6. ✱**MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI:** Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to increase the price of paddy and tapioca produced in the State;

(*b*) if so, the action taken on it; and

(*c*) if not, the reason why it is not increased?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise in view of the answer to part (*a*).

(*c*) Because the prices now fixed are considered reasonable.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know why it is not proposed to raise the price?

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MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: Because Government consider that the price fixed is reasonable, and if any increase is to be made, it has to be done in consultation with the neighbouring State of Cochin with whom they have entered into common understanding in regard to the price of these articles.

Rationing of rice and paddy.

7. *MR. K. KUNJU PANICKAR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have issued any orders to appropriate the entire stock of paddy crop of the present and future harvests of 1118 (from Dhanu 1118), from the cultivators for the rationing of rice;

(*b*) whether there is any ration rate of rice fixed for the whole State; and

(*c*) whether it is the intention of the Government that even cultivators and proprietors having sufficient paddy and rice for their consumption should live on ration rate and hand over the surplus for Government distribution?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR (*a*) Yes, the proposal is to purchase the surplus stock after allowing the cultivator or owner to retain the quantity required for *bona fide* domestic consumption and cultivation purposes including provision of seed.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Yes, but subject to (*a*).

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKAR: Answer to part (*a*) is "Yes, the proposal is to purchase the surplus stock after allowing the cultivator or owner to retain the quantity required for *bona fide* domestic consumption and cultivation purposes including provision of seed." In the Municipality of Kottayam for every individual one-eighth of a nazhi is permitted as ration. Here, it is said that after allowing to retain what is required for the consumption of the cultivator, the balance will be taken up. May I know what will be the proportion which will be allowed to be retained by the cultivator?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: The exact quantity that will be allowed to be retained by the cultivator can be decided only after the total quantity has been ascertained together with the quantity of imported rice that is available.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKAR: Am I to understand from that answer that the cultivator and the land owner can retain a greater proportion of rice and paddy for their domestic use?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: They will be given preference in regard to the quantity of rice to be utilised by them.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ഒരാൾക്ക് ഉരിയ അരിവച്ചു കണക്കാക്കി ബാക്കിയുള്ള നെല്ലാണ് വിലയ്ക്കുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതെന്ന ഫുഡ് ഗ്രെയിൻസ് പർച്ചേസിംഗ് ആഫിസ്സർ ആർഡർ കൊടുത്തതനുസരിച്ചു പ്രവർത്തിച്ചുവരുന്നതായി അറിയാമോ?

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